A Full and True

ACCOUNT

Of the DREADFUL and MELANCHOLLY

EARTHQUAKE,

Which happened between Twelve and One o'Clock in the Morning,

ON

THURSDAY the Fifth Inſtant.

WITH

An Exact LIST of ſuch PERSONS as have hitherto been found in the Rubbiſh.

In a LETTER from a GENTLEMAN in Town, to his FRIEND in the Country.

The FOURTH EDITION.

LONDON:

Printed for *Tim. Tremor*, near the *Temple Gate, Fleet-ſtreet.* 1750.

(Price Six-Pence.)

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MAY, 28, 1913
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ENGLISH HISTORICAL TRACTS

A Full and True

ACCOUNT

Of the late DREADFUL and MELANCHOLLY

EARTHQUAKE.

SIR,

IN Obedience to the Commands you left me, when you went out of Town, that if any thing ſhould happen on *April* the 5th, as you fully expected, and, as the Event has proved, with too much Reaſon, I ſhould write you an Account of it; I have made it my Buſineſs to learn as many Particulars attending this dreadful Cataſtrophe, as the Shortneſs of the Time, and the Confuſion

we

we are all in, would admit of. I believe I need not trouble you with an Account of the general Effects of this Calamity, which, no doubt, you will receive from other Hands; I ſhall only pick out ſuch Circumſtances, as I think likely to eſcape others, who may not have had an Opportunity of making ſo nice an Enquiry as myſelf.

I ſhall begin, therefore, by telling you, that the Alarm the Town had been in ever ſince the firſt and ſecond Shock, was conſiderably encreaſed on the firſt *Sunday* of the preſent Month, by its being obſerved, that ſeveral Officers had received the Sacrament that Day; and tho' it was afterwards affirmed, and the Town was pretty well convinced, it was only in order to qualify themſelves upon the laſt Promotion, yet, ſuch is the Effect of Fear, that its firſt Impreſſions could never be rightly got over.

I take for granted, you know the Time the late Shock began at, and how long it laſted, therefore ſhall omit the Relation of it.

The very firſt Man that was ſunk by this Earthquake, was the B--- of *L*----: It ſeems he might have eſcaped, but his Zeal was ſo great in diſtributing Copies of his Letter, which, good Man, as the Time drew near, he gave away in Bundles, Thirteen to the Dozen, to any Body that would accept of them, that he took no Manner of Heed to his Steps, and ſo entirely loſt himſelf.

The D--- of *N*---- was the next that was overwhelmed: The Place he was loſt in is eaſily known

known by the Numbers of Papers, and Quantities of Red Tape, that are ſtill ſcattered about it. He appears to have been very buſy in digging under Ground, as much as he could, but to have been able to make but little Way. Mr. *S*—— had but juſt Time to wrap himſelf in his Callicoe Night-gown, but having entirely forgot the Steps he went up, was obliged to remain where he was: As it is a very high Place, many are impatient to ſee him come down.

I know you will be ſorry for poor L--y *C*——, and Mr. *P*——; they were found buried under vaſt Heaps of Dirt, which, by the Poſture they are yet in, they ſeem rather to have drawn towards themſelves, than to have ſhov'd from them, as they ought.

As to my L--- *C*—— there is no getting at him yet, the Weight of other People's Houſes that have fallen upon him being immenſe; however, it is hop'd, it may be removed in time. One of his Sons was ſwallowed up in the D-- of *K*—— Houſe in St. *J*—— Sq---, but they are not yet able to find in which Part of it he is.

It is reported, the Confuſion was very great in *B*—— Sq—; however, Mr. *B*——*r* was directed to anſwer, in his own Name, all the Letters received from Foreign Princes, by the laſt Mail; tho' it is ſaid, on the other Hand, that ſo far from any Appearance of Fear there, the Company ſtuck to the Pharoah-Table, during the whole Time, with a Conſtancy quite heroic; only, indeed, that Night, they played Ready Money.

Little

Little M—— *A*—— is about Town again, as much as ever; tho' what Hole ſhe went in at, and come out of, no-body knows.

A certain pretty L---y you knew, remarkable for her Zeal laſt *Weſtminſter* Election, was taken in near the Huſtings, *Covent-Garden:* She attempted to cry out, as ſhe went down, *Oh, my Country!* but her Mouth was ſtopp'd before ſhe could pronounce the whole Sentence. Several Ladies that had been playing at Brag, were found with the Naturals in their Hands.

Some People were ſo lucky as to find a Way under Ground, from the City, and roſe directly in the H—ſe of L—, where they ſeemed to like this Change better than their old one.

Lady *V*—, who did not lie at Home that Night, knew nothing of the Matter till ſhe got up: She ſays ſhe felt a great Shaking, but did not take it to be an Earthquake.

Lady *A*—— was a good deal frighted, but not hurt, by the Fall of the Teaſter of her Bed; it ſeems the Upholſterers had forgot to faſten it, but by a very ſlight Pack-thread, ſo that the leaſt Motion it had been put in muſt have brought it down long ago.

The Goodneſs of the preſent glorious M—— upon this Occaſion, can never be ſufficiently commemorated: They were, all the Time, picking all Sorts of People out of the Dirt, and leading them into the C— at St. *J*——; for which

Uſe

Uſe they had forcibly ſet open the great Gates, in Spight of thoſe within, who deſigned to have kept the Place clear for Perſons of Figure; tho' ſome People have the ill Nature to aſcribe to the Hurry of Fear, that the Day before this Accident a very great Man diſpoſed of a Place of 500*l.* *per Annum*, in Favour of a Gentleman of great Worth, and greatly recommended, even tho' his own Footman had asked for it.

The Free Independent Electors met extraordinary that Night, to drink Succeſs to Earthquake the Third; when S--*G*— *V*— aſſured the Company, that he would, to the utmoſt of his Power, and as far as in him lay, promote any future Earthquake, which he looked upon to be the natural Conſtitution of the Land, and the only Means of ſettling Things, and produced a Letter from *A*— *V*—, which aſſured them of the ſame on his Part.

Mr. *W*——*n*, the Aſtronomer, upon the firſt Beginning of the Trembling, ſet out on Foot for *Dover*, on his Way to *Jeruſalem*, where he has made an Appointment to meet the *Millennium*: It is thought, if he makes tolerable Haſte, he will arrive there firſt.

I have been told, but I won't anſwer for the Truth of it, that S—— *J*—— *B*—— has propoſed to the *P*——*t*, a Tax upon Fear and Folly, to be levied on thoſe that have tranſported themſelves out of the Reach of an Earthquake.

The

The P—— of *W*—— behaved, upon this Occaſion, with that Humanity and Generoſity, which conſtantly attend on all his Actions; the firſt of which diſtinguiſhes him as much from the reſt of P——s, as the latter does from the reſt of Men: He was ſeen to weep, during the whole Time of the Confuſion, tho' he could help but little, otherwiſe than by conſtantly warning thoſe he ſaw in Danger, *There's a Hole, you'll tumble into it! That Houſe will fall upon your Heads!* But, by a ſtrange Stupidity, People kept preſſing on, in the ſame Direction they ſat out, till they all ſunk together.

This, Sir, is all I have hitherto been able to pick up, of what has happened in this horrible Subverſion of Things. I don't doubt, but a little more Time will furniſh Materials for many more, and much longer Letters of the ſame Sort; as every Moment, the more Rubbiſh is removed, and the deeper they go into it, the more Perſons of Diſtinction are found at the Bottom of it. I am,

S I R,

London,
April *the 5th.*

Your Moſt Obedient Servant,

P. D.